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LIFE AND LIGHT FOR WOMAN.



JULY, 1883.
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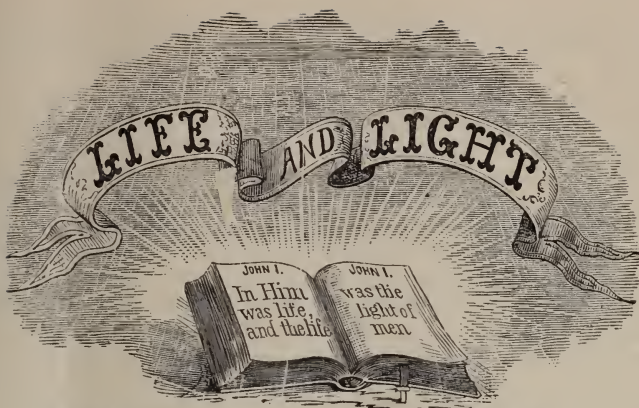
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FOR WOMAN.

VOL. XIII.

JULY, 1883.

No. 7.

INDIA.

LETTER FROM MRS. BISSELL.

* * * Your letter came on the seventeenth, the first day of the annual meeting of the Woman's Board of Missions. It was so nice to have a reminder come just then! We, so far away and so occupied with our immediate surroundings, are apt to forget the times and seasons that are transpiring in our far-off land, even though we feel a deep interest in them. So we were able to think of you all assembled in Mt. Vernon Church on those two days. It is wonderful what the Christian women of England and America are accomplishing. To God be all the glory! There are a great many women in active service in India at this present time, many of them most earnest workers. Only about two months since, a meeting was held in Lahore for the purpose of considering ways and methods, and attended by most of the missionary women of the Punjab. It lasted five days. Then, soon after, a large number met at the Conference in Calcutta, and there presented papers and made addresses. It was most interesting to read their views of the work, so varied and yet so thoroughly in earnest. There is surely good in store for this benighted land.

I fancy that it seems to many of you at home as if the "set time" must be very near at hand, with all these laborers in the field. Here, however, although we can begin to see signs of the

day approaching, yet the obstacles are so great and so many, and from year to year the progress is so slow, the heart would faint were it not for God's word that "in Him shall all the nations of the earth be blessed." Looking around us right here, how very slight an impression has been made! All is going on just the same as before a single missionary came—all the idol-worship, the child-marriages, the clinging to caste, marrying children to idols and giving them up to lives of sin, and all the foolish, superstitious, wicked practices so common among them. No change is visible upon the surface, but there is a change of thought, and even women are beginning to think. I see it in my intercourse with them, and hear it from the Bible-women. Heathen women sometimes make vows to the Christians' God, feeling after some one who is able to grant their requests.

There is a young Brahmin widow who has recently found her way to our Presidency—quite a learned lady, especially in the Sanscrit. She has given lectures in several of the large cities, Ahmednagar among them. She spoke here to companies of women alone, and then in a large hall, where the audience was mostly men. She was modest and self-possessed. Her power of language was really wonderful; she was able to keep the attention of all those Brahmins most completely. It did one good to see them all so intent on the words of a woman, and especially when she dwelt upon themes which they disapproved; such as the re-marriage of widows, the evil of child-marriage, the education of females, and the folly of caste. She also decries idol-worship. She is trying to form associations of women who will promise solemnly to try by all means in their power to forward her enterprise, which has for its end the abolishment of all these evils. A few women here formed an association, but they say they did not make any such promises; they only agreed to meet regularly for self-improvement. There have been only two meetings, and when I asked a Brahmin woman about it the other day, she said there was no one here to act as a leader, and they hadn't the courage to speak even before each other. In Poona there is quite a live association, also in Bombay. These things are a great step in advance. But Ramabai, the learned lady, is not very near Christianity. When she came to see our school, the teachers gave her a copy of the New Testament, and she promised to read it. She belongs to what is called the Prarthana Somaj, or the praying association. They hold meetings for praise and prayer to God, but they see no need of a Mediator. Much prayer is being offered for her, that she may be led to the light. What a power for good she might become—so much greater than any foreigner! She is studying English, with a view to going to England,

to try and enlist their sympathies in behalf of her down-trodden countrywomen. All this gives an idea of the progress of thought among the women of India.

At our last communion service eleven of the school-girls were received into the church. All had been baptized in infancy except one. Others had been attending the pastor's inquiry-meeting, also, but the church thought best they should wait awhile longer. This was the result of no special effort, but I think a step forward was taken by many among us about New Year's time. Our church kept the watch-night service, and one and another spoke of new desires, new hopes, and resolves; and there were some searching words in connection with the passing away of the old year and the coming of the new, and, altogether, a deep impression was made. I think these girls felt that the time had come for them to take a decided stand, and belong to Christ. The change in some of them is marked. One in particular had formerly been a most troublesome girl; we have wondered sometimes if we could continue to keep her in the school. She went the rounds of the boarding-circle, because none of the matrons wanted the care of her; she used bad language, and was untruthful. All this past year she has been improving, and now there is a further change; she seems really trying to please Christ.

TOURING IN TURKEY.

EXTRACTS FROM MISS BUSII'S JOURNAL.

HAINÉ, Oct. 14, 1882.

WE have just reached this place — a city in Koordistan, ninety miles south-east of Harpoot. This represents a journey for us of thirty hours — as long as you would have to travel to go from Boston to Chicago; but we could not take a palace-car, or fly over hill and valley with the speed in with which the Occident indulges, though we think we can boast somewhat over the speed of our horses. The first day of travel was Wednesday, a bright, sunny day, whose soft air gave a peculiar charm to the landscape. Thursday we journeyed through a most beautiful valley, where there was abundance of water and refreshing shade. That night was passed in a Koordish village among the mountains, in a miserable little room, and with no beds to put under us on the hard earth floor. We created a sensation by our arrival, I assure you. The roofs were lined with wild-looking, armed Koords — strong, tall, and not men to meet you in a *friendly* way on some lonely mountain road. The women, with their bright eyes and white



KOORDS.

teeth, smiled at me, and chattered something not to my edification; but I was the subject of their remarks I was confident. As we stood in this crowd, waiting for a night's resting-place to be granted, a woman advanced, and seizing my horse's bridle said in Turkish, "Come; I will show you a house." I decidedly objected to the hand upon the bridle, but told her I would come with her if she would oblige me by removing that. From that place on, the poverty, ignorance, and wretchedness of Koordish life became more and more evident. The children appeared everywhere clothed only in one little garment, and often lacking that.

REDWAN, Oct. 26, 1882.

On Monday we were off again, journeying over a pleasant road for five or six hours to the old walled city of Farkin. This is a most interesting place because of its ruins, the walls in many parts having fallen, in others being overgrown with graceful vines. There is also a very ancient ruined church and mosque within the walls, strongly reminding us of places seen in Europe; while the storks'-nests, which crown every ruin, speak unmistakably of the far East.

Our road next day was an easy, beautiful one over a rolling country. We accomplished the fording of the Batman River, and our lunch, and then the clouds commenced to overflow in good earnest, and we traveled along in silence, quite satisfied with lonely meditations, under our rain-cloaks. We had no guide, remember, and did not know Koordish, so at first we asked of every man we met, "Hatthatt?" the name of a Koordish village three hours distant from Farkin. The answer was always, "Straight on;" and so we went, until our arrival there made us change our question to "Redwan?" which was answered in like manner for six long hours, we never sure that we were not miles from the right direction. After nine hours of journeyings we sat on our horses, in a somewhat drenched and very weary condition, before a wretched Koordish village, trying to make the laughing crowd understand that the strongest desire we had just then was for a lodging. How glad we were, in the midst of our difficulties, to have a man who spoke Turkish step up; but gladder still when he said, "Come, and I will show you a Christian house." Could you have guessed it to be a Christian house? They all spoke Koordish except one woman, whom I could have embraced, just because she spoke Armenian! Then we had to camp down by the outside door, in a space about twelve feet square, with saddles and wet water-proofs disposed of as best we could. I cannot begin to picture to you the confusion of that place. And what a night! I sat up most of the

time and fought the wee disturbers of my slumbers, which lasted only one or two hours in all.

ARGHUNI, Nov. 10th.

Our visit to Redwan is a thing of the past. While there I was able to have several meetings with the women, and to visit daily from house to house. A dear Christian woman went with me on these visits, to translate. Her cleanliness, gentle manners, and spirituality completely won my heart. We entered many very wretched homes, where all I had given me on which to sit, on the floor, was a bundle of rags. There were meetings morning and evening at the Chapel, which increased in interest as the days went on. Sunday dawned bright and beautiful, filling all hearts with joy. The congregations were large—the morning meeting being one for prayer, that at noon a baptismal service, with one, also, for the church-members, while the closing one in the afternoon was a solemn communion service. I also held a meeting with the women and girls. Every evening while there the brethren gathered in the pastor's room, to talk, and sing, and pray. Many plans were formed for the school and church during these evening conversations, the results of which we shall wait anxiously to see this winter.

Early on Monday morning brethren and sisters gathered to bid us good-bye, and accompanied us out of the town, down to the river, where Mr. B. prayed first in Armenian, and then Pastor Kaviné in Koordish, when we shook hands and parted, bringing to mind a scene enacted some hundreds of years ago, when Paul, parting from his friends, “kneeled down and prayed with them all,” and “they accompanied him unto the ship.” We had a fine road and good weather all the way to this place. The first night we spent in a wretched little Koordish hut, full of dirt and fleas, and it did not prove very restful. The dim light of a tallow-candle revealed a low, black ceiling literally festooned with cobwebs. But the evening was brightened by a pleasant little episode. An old, gray-bearded priest came to see us, and showed great interest in the truth. He already possessed a large-print Bible, and wanted a hymn-book, and I could not withhold my own from him, in the hope that it might sow some seed in his heart. Wednesday morning, after traveling two hours, the “Black Walled City” of Diarbekir burst upon our vision from a distant hill-top. At first its towers, and parapets, and spire-like minarets were dim in a cloudy, misty light, and it looked like a fairy city of the times of “Aladdin and his lamp.” Soon the clouds vanished, and the glorious sunshine transformed it into a real city, full of teeming life. As we slowly approached it, we intently watched the contour

of its walls and towers, and the solid, unshaken rocks on which that side is built; the church-spires and minarets rising side by side above all; the sparkling fall of water from the summit of the



DIARBEKIR.

lofty rock which formed part of the wall; the gardens without the wall, gay in autumn foliage; and the many busy travelers, intent on piasters and paras to be gathered by trade within those hospitable gates.

Then we descended, and forded the Tigris, right underneath the very walls; then turned, regretfully, and pursued our journey, the wearisomeness of which was partly relieved by the diversity of the various travelers we met or passed. There were all sorts—long trains of camels loaded with salt, or unloaded and mounted by the camileers, who swayed back and forth with the long strides of the uncouth beast. There were generally several donkeys in the train, who seemed more than usually diminutive, and were crawling mites by the side of the huge camels. There were soldiers racing their horses, and singing vile Turkish songs at the top of their voices.



TRAVELING IN TURKEY.

There was an old-fashioned Turk with his long spear, accompanied with one or two companions with a tambourine, the sound of which, with their singing, made my horse dance in fine style. There were merchants, well-dressed and mounted, smoking their cigarettes, and discussing their prospects of gain. There was a finely arrayed Turkish officer and his harem, and, more curious than all, a coal-black woman, who strode along in front of her company as majestically as if she were the queen of the gypsies or Meg Merrihies, albeit, for protection, she flourished a huge club in one hand, and, for inward refreshment, munched a piece of coarse, black bread.

(To be Continued.)

Young People's Department.

A LETTER, AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

BY MISS LEOLINE WATERMAN.

The desire of power in excess caused the angels to fall; the desire of knowledge in excess caused man to fall; but in charity there is no excess: neither can angel nor man come in danger by it.—BACON.

CHAPTER I.

A NEW FASHION.

"Oh ye rich ones of earth!
When at your blazing hearth,
Feasted with wine and mirth,
Think of God's poor."



BELLE, BELLE, I've got something of yours! What will you give me for it?" Dick Carsey spoke in his most teasing tone, holding the important "something" mysteriously behind his back. Belle was not to be so easily ruffled, however.

"I'll say 'Thank you,' for it, Dick," she said quietly, extending her expectant hand.

Dick smiled provokingly, and slowly drew into view a bulky letter, with an extremely interesting foreign post-mark. Belle sprang to her feet.

"O Dick, do give it to me!"

"Gently, gently, sweet sister," the young gentleman returned, holding the letter high above her head. "You shall have it presently; but my curiosity is excited, and you must first gratify its cravings. You seem to know from whom this letter comes. I feel that it is my duty to make inquiries."

Perceiving that resistance was vain, Belle sank back in her chair with an air of resignation.

"Who is your correspondent?" inquired the ruthless brother.

"Mattie Lenton, my room-mate at Vassar."

"Ah! I remember; a little countrified thing from somewhere among the Connecticut hills. I should not imagine that she would be an interesting correspondent."

"You know nothing about her, good or bad."

"Don't I? Perhaps you didn't write a furious letter home about your horrid room-mate."

"Well" (warmly), "that was before I knew Mattie. She was a country girl, and at first I was afraid we should not get along well together. But she came to be one of my dearest friends."

"Have you corresponded ever since you left college, two years ago?"

"Indeed we have."

"Pshaw! What could you have in common, pray? Did you write about gay city life — balls, parties, etc.? and she of picnics, housework, and church-matters?"

"Dick, you are quite too bad! We each wrote of what we were most interested in, of course. Now give me my letter. You know everything you care to know, by this time, I hope."

"No, no: you must tell me how she comes to be abroad, what she is doing, and how long she is going to stay."

Belle looked sober. "She went as a missionary, Dick, and means to stay as long as she lives."

With a grand flourish Dick laid the letter in her lap, and departed. Belle eagerly tore open the envelope, and settled herself for the full enjoyment of its voluminous contents. Slowly she turned page after page, and as she read, the tears gathered more than once in her bright eyes.

It was a simple letter, but full of the spirit of consecration which had led Mattie to devote her fresh, young life so freely to her Master's work. It told pathetically of the great need of the wretched heathen children for whom she toiled, and of much that might be accomplished if the necessary funds were not wanting. It concluded as follows:—

"O my dear Belle, how little I can tell you of the depths of misery about me! How can Christian people be so indifferent upon the subject of foreign missions? It seems as if common humanity alone, concerning itself only with this life, would prompt them to give of their abundance far more than they do for the relief of the heathen; and when we consider the immortal souls in peril, the importance of help is increased a thousand-fold. Moreover, we are told, 'He that hath pity upon the poor, lendeth to the Lord, and that which he hath given will he pay him again.' Surely, the heathen are the most miserable of 'the poor.'"

The letter dropped into Belle's lap, and she leaned her head on her hand in deep thought. The tale of suffering and ignorance she had just read affected her with overwhelming force. It came like a revelation. Surrounded from infancy by the whirl and hurry of fashionable life, she had really known nothing till now of missionary work. Even when at Vassar she had been too deeply engrossed in study to read the missionary publications that always lay within reach; and Mattie was too timid, and fearful of wearying her friend, to speak of the cause so near her heart. But Belle had been unconsciously influenced by contact with her room-mate's

sweet, Christian character. She was far from being at heart the frivolous girl she appeared. Her revery closed with the earnest exclamation; "How nobly she is working in a grand cause, while I am doing nothing! I wish I could help her!"

Slowly refolding the letter, she returned it to the envelope. Suddenly she seemed struck by a new idea. She considered earnestly for a few moments, then opened her desk and wrote graceful little notes to some of her girl-friends, inviting them to lunch with her on the following day.

Accordingly, the next afternoon found a party of merry girls in possession of Mrs. Carsey's grand parlor. The elegant lunch had been duly discussed, and now all were busy over bits of dainty fancy-work, while tongues flew faster than needles. A grand party was in prospect,—the gayest and most fashionable of the season,—and they were engaged in calculating their probable chances of enjoyment. Dress was the first topic of discussion, and all with one consent declared their intention to appear in new and bewitching toilets.

"Girls, I have something to propose!" suddenly exclaimed Belle Carsey. All turned expectantly toward her, for Belle's plans were always well worth consideration. Then she told them of Mattie's letter, and its unconscious appeal for help, touching pathetically on the sweet girl's brave self-sacrifice.

"She is a grand woman!" exclaimed impetuous Jeanie Carington. "I will contribute a dollar for the cause."

"And I!" "And I!" "And I!" cried the others.

"If we each give a dollar, that will make a sum total of six dollars," Belle said, slowly.

"Of course, my dear. Your calculation is quite correct, I assure you," laughed May Murdock, mischievously.

But Belle was perfectly sober. "No, girls," she continued, shaking her fair head decidedly; "that is not my plan. What are six dollars when so many more are needed? It is a mere drop in the bucket, and we can do better."

"What is your idea, then, Belle?" queried Jeanie.

Belle hesitated, looking wistfully from one bright face to another. She knew that these girls would think her plan a "queer" one. She doubted whether they would approve of it, or join her in its accomplishment. But they were waiting; she had begun, and she must finish.

"My plan is simply this, Jeanie," she said. "When I received this letter, I, in common with the rest of you, intended to have a beautiful new dress for Mrs. Lamode's party; now I mean to spend a third of the value of a new dress in renovating an old one. The

remaining two-thirds I shall give to foreign missions. Will you not do the same?"

For several minutes there was perfect silence in the room. Belle took a card from the table, and wrote her name on its back for fifty dollars, then handed it to her next neighbor. Slowly one girl after another added her name, some giving more, some less. A few were influenced by real generosity awakened by Mattie's letter and Belle's enthusiasm. Others contributed simply to please Miss Carsey, who was their acknowledged leader, because it seemed to be "the thing," or for fear of being thought selfish. A few even looked on the plan as a good joke, and agreed "just for fun." The card had nearly completed the circle, when Julia Proudie touched her neighbor's arm.

"Do you want to do it, Carrie?" she whispered.

"No; I haven't a thing that is fit to wear to the party," was the reply.

"I have something that would *do*, I suppose; but I really can't give up the lovely pink silk and lace I meant to have."

"I see no reason why we should give the money, unless we choose. If you won't subscribe, I won't, either, and Belle can think what she pleases."

So an opposition was organized; for — conscious of their selfishness — the girls not only refused to give anything toward the fund, but actively opposed it, and laughed at their more generous companions, making them very uncomfortable, in spite of themselves. Notwithstanding this hindrance, however, the donations amounted to one hundred and thirty dollars.

Nor was this the end of the matter, for the secret of the reduction in dry-goods and dress-making bills leaked out; and after a good deal of effort put forth, with the tact and winsomeness that made Belle Carsey an acknowledged leader in society, other names were added to her list.

One evening Barton Selden — one of the most interesting and promising young men of her acquaintance — called on Miss Carsey, and asked the pleasure of acting as her escort on the night of the party. Belle accepted the invitation, wondering, meanwhile, if he would notice her old dress. The next moment her doubt was removed.

"Miss Carsey," he said, "perhaps I am trespassing on forbidden ground in speaking of the missionary fund you are collecting. We gentlemen, however, are unwilling that the ladies should monopolize the good work, and we have started a subscription of our own, on the same principle as yours. Some money has already been placed in my care for the purpose. A plan has

occurred to me for still further increasing the amount, but I feel a delicacy in mentioning it."

"Pray do not hesitate, Mr. Selden," Belle exclaimed, with sparkling eyes.

"You know," he continued, smiling, "that it is the custom in our circle for the gentlemen to present bouquets to the ladies whom they escort to a party. It has occurred to me that, as you are so much interested in the subject, it might afford you more pleasure to do without the flowers, and have their value toward your fund."

"O Mr. Selden, what a good idea! I am sure that I can persuade some of the others to agree;" and Belle clapped her hands impulsively.

"You are not afraid, then, of disgusting your friends by asking too much of them?"

"O no! I believe in 'striking while the iron is hot.' The enthusiasm is at its height now, and we ought to take advantage of it to do all the good we can. I may get the reputation of a troublesome beggar, and be laughed at more than will be pleasant; but I shall not mind that in so good a cause."

"We will consider it arranged, then," he responded, thinking as he spoke how sweet and unselfish she was.

A month later, the girls who were interested in the fund, met once more in Mrs. Carsey's parlor.

"Well, May, how did you enjoy Mrs. Lamode's party?" inquired Belle.

"Oh, immensely! I can't explain it, but it was the *best* party I ever attended. All seemed to enjoy themselves except Miss Proudie, who looked fairly savage; and as to the dresses, I really think they were prettier than usual."

"I am sure we all agree with May," said Jeanie Carrington; "and I think I can explain why the party was such a success. In the first place, we were all conscious that we had done some real, solid good. In the second, we all used our own individual good taste and contrivance in arranging our dresses, instead of placing new material entirely in the dress-maker's hands, and trusting to her. I confess, for my part, that the result was very satisfactory."

"How large is your fund now, Belle?" May inquired.

"If I succeed in various directions where I have been laying deep plans, I think I shall have more than five hundred dollars," replied Belle; then added, with a blush, — "I mean Mr. Selden's and mine united."

Jeanie laughed mischievously. "By the way, Belle, where is your engagement ring?" she asked.

Belle's color deepened still more as she replied: "I have none. I gave it to the missionaries."

"I declare," exclaimed May Murdock, with honest wonder in her voice, "generosity is really becoming fashionable!"

"All honor to Belle, for setting so good a fashion," added Jeanie, softly kissing the finger upon which the diamond should have sparkled. I tell you, girls, I think it has opened our eyes to the selfish extravagance in which we live."

(To be Continued.)

Our Work at Home.

THE DUTY OF THE HOUR.

Read at the Quarterly Meeting of the Board, May 31st.

OUR departing Lord left with his followers the promise, "I will not leave you comfortless; I will come to you." Ten days later the promise was fulfilled in the wonderful miracle of Pentecost. He came again in the person of the Holy Spirit. The flame, the gift of speech, the rushing wind,—palpable symbols,—soon passed away, but the new wonder-working power remains until this day. One of the most fascinating studies to the Christian mind is the way in which the Spirit has been moving in the world in the centuries since that time. Entering into men and women, whether in the mass or as individuals; lifting them up as leaders, or using the effort of the humblest and weakest; showing His care for the smallest details,—he has gone forth conquering and to conquer, reconciling the world to Jehovah. What an inspiring thought it is that even we may have some infinitesimal part in his great plan. Over and over again in other lives and events we may read the beautiful story of Peter and Cornelius—where those who have need, and those who have the means to supply the need, are brought together in His own good time and for His own loving purpose.

Especially has this been shown in missionary work—and we think we may say, with reverence and gratitude, in woman's missionary work. It was particularly true in the inception of our Board. All unknown to each other, those who had been groping in darkness began to know there was light for them, and where they might find it; and at the same time Christian women in this country

began to be burdened with their needs, and were prepared to receive the messages which besought their aid. Again and again in our history, while the demand for a new helper in the foreign field has been coming across the seas, the "Here am I, send me," has been coming across our own continent to meet the demand. During the last five months we feel that we have had a most striking instance of this power of the Spirit.

As we stand here to-day we are forcibly reminded of our annual meeting nearly five months ago, when we had reason to rejoice in the special manifestation of the Spirit's presence; when the breathless stillness filled the house; when very simple words from women's lips touched many hearts, and moved them as never before to a new consecration. We shall not soon forget the appeals made there, the earnest prayers offered, and we all know the answer that has come in full and blessed measure—not to our prayers alone, by any means, but to the thousands of petitions offered from sainted lips on both sides of the globe during the Week of Prayer. As soon afterward as letters could come to us we began to receive the good tidings. From one and another and another, till hardly any mission-field has been omitted, has come joyful words, sometimes tender and trembling, sometimes strong and exultant—"The Lord has come;" "The Spirit is in our midst;"—and in almost every recital we find that it was "in the Week of Prayer," or in the "days following the Week of Prayer," that the blessing came, so that many have experienced the truth of the promise, "While ye are yet calling I will answer."

The delightful details may be familiar, but we love to dwell on them as on a favorite poem or a beautiful song. As we remember Mrs. Allen's account, in our meeting in January, of twenty-five years in Harpoot, and her appeal for the little churches and the struggling women in the outlying villages, we love to go in imagination with Miss Bush and Miss Seymour in their recent tours among them, where the women thronged about them eager for the Word of Life; to look into the little chapel at Choonkoosh in the chill of the early morning, where the women have gathered, all aglow with interest, to hear of the love and sacrifice of our Lord; especially would we love to have been at that Sabbath sunrise-meeting where men and women sat for three hours in breathless attention, and where three times the benediction was pronounced which dismissed the indifferent and careless, before a person stirred. What a delight to have been at that wonderful meeting at Adana, when an overpowering influence from the Spirit seized upon the young preacher, and then swept through the congregation, and the people's heads were suddenly bowed as when a

strong wind passes over a field of grain; or at the noon prayer-meeting of two hundred and fifty women, where thirty-six different voices were heard in prayer — most of them seeking relief from the burden of their sins. We love to think of the blessed Sabbath evening at Broosa, when, at one impulse of the Spirit, sixteen young girls sprang to their feet in token of their determination to follow in the footsteps of our Lord.

Time would fail us to tell of the various places where the same beautiful story has been told in its varied forms: of Ahmednagar, where the first days of the year were times of solemn heart-searching, and where eleven of the pupils in our boarding-school united with the church at the last communion; of our Kioto home, where twenty-seven have quietly expressed a desire to become Christians; of Tungcho, China, where at last the long-desired awakening has begun; of South Africa, where, at Umvoti, at Esidumbini, at Mapumulo, at Umbiana stations, in the schools, among the station people, and in the kraals, numbers are seeking the salvation of their souls.

Can we ever forget how our hearts were stirred in January at Miss Stone's appealing, almost agonizing, cry of "Bulgaria! Bulgaria!" — a cry that was still ringing in our ears when the glad response came from Samokov: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow?" We sang the doxology with full hearts last evening, for the Lord has come. Praise ye His holy name. Never have we seen such glorious days in Samokov. The blessing has come down like rain upon the mown grass."

And now, dear friends, what meaning has this great blessing for us? We believe it is this: we believe that just as palpably as Peter was called to go to Cornelius, we, the Christian women in the Congregational churches in America, are called to go to the aid of these newly-awakened souls. We need no heavenly vision to convince us that our Saviour died for those in other lands just as much as for his chosen people in favored America—we know how thoroughly adapted our Gospel is to their every need;— but perhaps we do need to be brought to recognize the messengers who have come to us from them. We believe that these dear missionaries who speak to us to-day—those who shall speak to us in days to come—are as truly messengers sent by the Angel of God, as were the men who stood before the gate of Simon's house more than eighteen hundred years ago. We believe that the Spirit is saying to us to-day, "Arise, therefore, and get thee down and go with them, nothing doubting, for I have sent them."

If these revivals mean anything to us, they mean enlargement of our work in every direction. These new-born souls must be trained

in the fear and admonition of the Lord. As a result of this great blessing we shall expect to have more pupils in our schools, more preparing for future teachers and Bible-women, more and larger buildings will be needed, more missionaries to superintend the work in all its branches. This will require a large increase in our funds. For almost the first time in our writing, we are obliged to report to-day a falling off in our receipts. So far this year our general contributions are \$2,000 less than last year, while the legacies and special gifts are much smaller than for several years. We believe that since these new doors of entrance are divinely opened, in simple justice to the missionaries and their labors, to which we are solemnly pledged, we must carry forward their work in largely increased ratio. We wish to ask all here to-day to gather up your energies anew, to follow up this advantage gained over the enemy of souls, in the name of our Almighty Commander. We want to beg you to be ready for the new demands sure to be made upon us all. We see indications of the need of greater vigilance than ever before for the prosperity and integrity of our organizations at home. We want to ask that societies and individuals shall not be satisfied with fulfilling present pledges. Let us remember that they are not made solely to any Branch or Board, but to our God, and they have no limit except what he places upon them. We want to beseech the Christian women with whom we come in contact not to let their surroundings, whether they be the charm of a beautiful, well-ordered home, or the pressing burden of care and anxiety, the allurements of pleasure, art, and self-improvement, or the relief of suffering about our own doors, or even the religious work in our own Christian land—we want to beseech that none of these shall rise so high before our eyes as to hide from view the millions who are starving for the Bread of Life.

We, in common with all Christendom divinely led, we cannot doubt, are responsible for a remarkable state of things in nearly every country on the globe. In great measure, through Christian teaching and contact with Christian civilization, their faith in old beliefs has been undermined, their confidence in their gods is shaken, they have become dissatisfied with their old degradation, and are restless under the old thralldom of superstition; and now that they ask of us bread, shall we give them a stone, or turn from them in indifference? We are sometimes tempted to say, What have we done? These people can never be what they have been in years past. They must either come into the full light, or sink back into far deeper darkness. Upon the Church depends the decision as to which it shall be.

Sir Richard Temple, long connected with the Government of

India, in an address during his late visit here, said, in reply to the question, "Have the missionaries done anything in India?" "The answer to this must come from well-verified figures and facts. They read like the statistics of some great governmental undertaking, but they really constitute the result of private enterprise undertaken in the most sacred of causes. The fear is not that we shall be discouraged by the small result already attained, but that the result is becoming so great, and increasing with such rapid growth, that it may, ere long, so grow on your hands that you cannot cope with it." A writer from Japan says: "The prestige of Christianity is so great, and its connection with the civilization now eagerly sought for by the people of Japan is so intimate and apparent, that the Buddhists are quite satisfied that the Government does not actually proclaim Christianity to be the religion of the empire." And of the Turkish Empire it has been said: "Many of the followers of the false prophet recognize the doom of Islam, and the speedy triumph of Christianity. It is only a question of time, and whether sooner or later, depends, under the blessing of God, on the expectant faith and efforts of American Christians, to whom pre-eminently has been accorded this great privilege of republishing the unsearchable riches of Christ in Bible-lands."

These are inspiring words, but what concerns us more nearly to-day is the surprising fact — one that we all find it difficult to believe, and which many so entirely ignore — that woman really has a part in this great onward movement. In a recent issue of a religious newspaper we find the following, written by a gentleman, with reference to a woman's society of another denomination: "We rejoice, in common with all who love our Lord Jesus Christ, in every effort honestly put forth for the advancement of his cause and the salvation of the world. Especially are we interested in the work which the women of the Church are doing. What a contrast between fifty years ago and the present! We have lived to see the day when she is almost taking the lead in evangelizing the world. God in his providence has opened the way for the employment of her wonderful capabilities in bringing the world into subjection to his Son. And she is doing her work most successfully: not in opposition to missionary boards and societies as organized during the last seventy-five years or more; not to the disparagement of any other agency employed; but as she is in the social relations of life, a helpmate to man, her brother."

If this be true in any measure, let us bow our heads in humble thankfulness for the work our God has placed in our hands, plead with him for strength and wisdom to carry it on, then be faithful

to our trust. Above all, let us rejoice in some of the results of Gospel teaching which we are permitted to see among women in other lands. It is very noticeable that women shared largely in the recent spiritual awakening of which we have spoken. They are mentioned in every account that has come to us, and in almost every meeting described. This could not have happened thirty years ago. Let us rejoice that in some degree they have burst the fetters that bound them; that they are waking up to the womanhood that is in them, and are no longer content to be classed with animals, no longer ignorantly submissive in the slavery of superstition. The teaching of missionaries and the partial contact with happy women of other lands, has begun to rouse them to a higher life and being. In proof of this, witness the rapid increase of female education in Turkey, the weakening of prejudice in China, and especially in India, where the influence of a Christian government makes more rapid progress possible. Here we see the forming of a commission to provide females medical attendance, to ameliorate their suffering in sickness. We see two hundred women appearing before a government educational commission to protest against child-marriage and enforced widowhood; and, what is still more remarkable, a Brahmin widow — a “learned lady,” as she is called — giving lectures in all the large cities of India, not to women only, but to “stately turbaned Brahmins,” portraying the evils of child-marriage, widowhood, caste, and even idol-worship.

There is an old Buddhist legend that there was once a huge monster asleep on one of the mountains of India, who defied all efforts to waken him. The gods sent messengers to rouse him. His ears were pierced with red-hot irons, but he only moved uneasily in his sleep; sharp instruments were thrust into his side, which caused him to open his eyes, and shut them again. Gods and men alike endeavored to rouse him in vain. At last a woman came with gentle touch upon his heart, and his lethargy was broken. He disappeared, and was never seen again. So it has been said the monster of degradation and superstition has lain for centuries, with crushing weight, on women in heathen lands. War and bloodshed have had no effect upon him, fire and pestilence have not moved him, but may it not be that the soft touch of a woman's hand — all-powerful through the gospel in it — on the mothers and the homes of the people, may do something toward lifting the terrible burden. Already it is perceptibly lightened; shall we, by our carelessness and indifference, let it fall back, crushing all the newly-formed hopes and higher aspirations into still more hopeless misery?

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE NEW HAVEN BRANCH.

THREE things, among a host of others, seem necessary to insure the success of a missionary meeting — a fine day, a large attendance, and a President dear to the hearts of all over whom she presides, with the dignity and gentle bearing that at once puts her audience in sympathy with the object of the meeting. All these requisites cheered the hearts of those interested in the success of the twelfth annual meeting of the New Haven Branch.

The year's report told of the progress of the one hundred and eighty-seven auxiliaries and mission circles. While there was nothing discouraging in the condition of the older and larger societies, still it was good to hear of the enthusiasm which organizes and sustains the mission circles, and which gives promise of great harvests to those who look forward to the time when the young people and children now in these mission circles will carry on the work of the Branch.

Though we have not been fortunate in having five hundred dollars in legacies, as last year, yet our receipts have reached nearly the same amount, which is something over ten thousand dollars.

There is always a certain satisfaction about a foreign secretary's report, in that it enables us to see just where, and how, our money goes. This year as we listened, the bare figures and words did not seem dead and dry, but alive with the grand results these seven missionaries, fifteen Bible-women, and three teachers *are* doing, and the great things we expect the eighty-four pupils and the seven schools *will* do in the years to come.

Where the sun beats hot upon Africa; where the pagodas and temples of India and Ceylon, China and Japan, rise to the sky; among the Armenians of Turkey, the more enlightened Bulgarians; in Catholic Austria and Spain, — all these are girdled with our prayers, and are the places where holy work is done with our money.

The Baptist Board was represented by Mrs. Whiting, and the Philadelphia Branch by Miss Halsey.

Mrs. Hubbard, of New York, the first President of the New Haven Branch, and now President of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Presbyterian Church, contrasted the large audience present with the much smaller assembly attending the *first* annual meeting held in the same church, and the Treasurer's report of that first year's work and the one of to-day.

Miss Child spoke for the Board at Boston, and after alluding to our prosperity, she mentioned briefly the Pentecostal spirit

abroad in all the mission-fields, and of the hopes entertained that it might be the beginning of the long-wished-for revival in the dark places of the East which hitherto had not been brightened by the Sun of righteousness, and of the responsibilities resting on Christian women at home in view of this awakening.

The statements of the county vice-presidents, both morning and afternoon, were very encouraging. There had been no retrograding. In some of the hill-towns the ladies could hardly wait for the date of the meeting to arrive, and in many others new zeal had been aroused. The address by Mrs. Elizabeth De Forest, of Osaka, Japan, in the forenoon, and that of Mrs. Alice Walbridge Gulick, in the afternoon, made the names of De Forest and Gulick take on a new meaning, and their far-away homes are no longer in unknown lands. The last half-hour in the morning service was a devotional meeting, and earnest prayers were offered that then and there some heart might be led to consecrate itself to the foreign missionary work.

After a simple, but bountiful collation, the afternoon session was called to order at two o'clock. Officers for the ensuing year were elected. Then followed greetings from the Hartford Branch and the Eastern Connecticut Branch.

All enjoyed Mrs. Joseph Cook's exceedingly instructive and valuable paper. One of the pleasantest features of the programme was the appearance upon the platform of the young Secretary of Mission Circles, who read a five-minutes' paper upon that subject illustrated by facts which very clearly showed the great importance of that work. In the strong, terse sentences which her heart had impelled her to write in her own wise and touching way, Mrs. Hume read to an audience whose earnest faces looked upon this mother of missionaries and listened eagerly; for did she not know whereof she wrote? The feelings that lie deepest cannot be told: so the inspiration which comes from these yearly gatherings, the enthusiasm aroused by meeting missionaries and the co-workers at home, the true missionary spirit pervading a large assembly like ours, are things which can be felt, but cannot be expressed.

Only when we look forward to that greater meeting around the throne, when the history of our societies shall be revealed, do we realize that

"The common deeds of the common day,
Are ringing bells in the far away."

IDALINA DARROW.

WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

RECEIPTS FROM APRIL 18 TO MAY 18, 1883.

MAINE.

Maine Branch.—Mrs. Woodbury S. Dana, Treas. Winthrop, Aux., \$25; Bridgton, Aux., \$15; Garland, Ladies' Contri., \$11; Lebanon Center, Little Cedars, \$30; Augusta, Aux., \$50; Milton, Aux., \$11.50; Saccarappa, Little Gleaners, \$25; Machias, Cheerful Workers, \$20; Eastport, Aux., \$19.83; Blanchard, Ladies' Contri., \$6.50; Greenville, Aux., \$14; New Gloucester, Aux., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Mrs. Ella Russell Kelsey, \$45; Bethel, 1st Ch. Aux., \$10; Hampden, Aux., \$30; Thomaston, Aux., \$14; Freeport, A Friend, \$1; Madison, Aux., \$4; Litchfield, Aux., \$20; South Berwick, Aux., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Miss Anna S. Barker, \$38.10; Biddeford, Pavilion Ch. Aux., \$15; Portland, State St. Ch. M. C., of wh. \$5 from Miss Alice E. Bailey's mite-box, \$150; Yarmouth, 1st Ch. Aux., \$36.44, \$591 37

Kittery.—Mrs. W. R. Brown, \$2; Mrs. Robert Newsom, \$1, 3 00

Winterport.—Mrs. S. P. Hazleton, 4 00

Total, \$598 37

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Atkinson.—Mrs. S. C. Barrows, \$1 60

VERMONT.

Vermont Branch.—Mrs. T. M. Howard, Treas. Wallingford, Cong. Ch. and Soc'y, of wh. \$50 const. L. M's Mrs. Maverick Porter, Miss Carrie Marsh, \$59.44; Chester, Young People's Soc'y, \$6.86; Rutland, Aux., of which \$25 const. L. M. Mrs. Clarinda C. Smith, \$35.60; Jericho Center, Aux., \$15.35; Montpelier, Young Stewards, \$5; Enosburgh, Aux., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Mrs. Laura A. Carpenter, \$44; Pittsford, Aux., const. L. M. Mrs. Olivia S. Colburn, \$25; Guildhall, Four Cl's S. S., \$10; St. Johnsbury, No. Ch. Aux., \$19.40;

Miss S. T. Crossman, \$20; Girls' Benev. Circle, \$5; New Haven, \$50; Westminster, West, Aux., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Miss Delia Ranney, \$40, \$335 65

Middlebury.—A Friend, 10 09

Total, \$345 65

MASSACHUSETTS.

Barre.—A Friend, const. L. M. Miss Mary E. Stearns, Windham, Vt., \$26 00

Berkshire Branch.—Mrs. S. N. Russell, Treas. Pittsfield, 1st Ch. Aux., \$4.50; Memorial Band, \$75; Dalton, Aux., \$38; Hinsdale, prev. contri., const. L. M., Mrs. Christopher Pierce, \$18.02; Mill River, Aux., \$24.70, 160 22

Essex No. Conf. Branch.—Mrs. A. Hammond, Treas. Rowley, Aux., \$25; Haverhill, North Ch., \$120.08; Newburyport, Aux., of wh. \$25 by Miss Julia N. Balch, const. self L. M., \$68.75, 213 83

Essex So. Conf. Branch.—Miss Sarah W. Clark, Treas. Gloucester, Aux., \$25; Middleton, Aux., \$11; Lynn, Aux., Central Ch., const. L. M's Mrs. Albert Moore, Mrs. Carrie Greene, \$50; Georgetown, Memorial Ch., \$34, 120 00

Franklin Co. Branch.—Miss L. A. Sparhawk, Treas. Coleraine, \$10; Greenfield, \$9.09; Northfield, \$18.14; South Deerfield, \$9.35; Shelburne, \$12.81; Sunderland, \$21; Busy Bees, \$1.30; Shelburne Falls, \$38.50; Little Women, \$20; Whately, Aux., const. L. M. Mrs. L. A. Harwood, \$28.05, 168 24

Hampshire Co. Branch.—Miss Isabella G. Clarke, Treas. So. Hadley, Faithful Workers, \$56; Northampton, L. E. L., \$10; Edwards Ch. Div., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Mrs. Frederic N. Kneeland, \$34; M. C., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Helen Bruce Story, \$40; 1st Ch. Div., prev. contri. const. L. M's Mrs. Rev. H. W. Lathe, Mrs. J. H. Searle, \$145, 285 00

Lowell.—Kirk St. Ch. S. S., 6 25

Malden.—1st Ch., 1 00

Medfield.—Morning Glories, prev. contri., const. L. M's Miss Emma Richards, Miss Jennie F. Wight, \$37 51

Middlesex Branch.—Mrs. E. H. Warren, Treas. Natick, Aux., \$28; Sudbury, Ladies' Sewing Soc'y, \$14, 42 00

New Bedford.—A Friend, const. L. M. Mrs. Catherine C. Seabury, \$25; 1st Ch., Acushnet, \$43.66, 68 66

Norfolk & Pilgrim Branch.—Mrs. Franklin Shaw, Treas. Brockton, Aux., \$10; Mission Sunbeams, \$70; Rockland, M. B., \$10; Easton, Workers for Jesus, \$3; So. Weymouth, Union Ch., Mardin Circle, \$5, 98 00

Rehoboth.—Cong. Ch., 2 20

Springfield Branch.—Miss H. T. Buckingham, Treas. Palmer, 1st Ch. Aux., \$25; Springfield, 1st Ch. Aux., \$47.47; Holyoke, Wide Awakes \$40; Westfield, 2d Ch., Scatter Good, \$30, 142 47

Suffolk Branch.—Miss Myra B. Child, Treas. Boston, Central Ch. S. S., \$54.88; Mrs. Mary Johnson, \$2; Park St. Ch. Aux., of wh. \$50 by Mrs. Ezra Farnsworth const. L. M's Miss Lisette Belland Mrs. Wm. J. McPherson, \$25 by Mrs. G. W. Coburn const. L. M. Miss J. Genevieve Withrow, \$25 by Mrs. E. A. Studley const. L. M. Miss Ella M. Seaverns, \$50 by Mrs. Jacob Fullerton const. L. M's Mrs. M. Augusta Burnham, Miss Clara Sibley, \$25 by Mrs. Wm. B. Tilton const. self L. M., \$25 by Mrs. A. J. Butler, const. self L. M., \$722; Union Ch. Aux., of wh. \$25 by Mrs. George Burt const. self L. M., \$68; East Boston, Maverick Ch. Aux., of wh. \$35 by Mrs. Albert Bowker const. L. M. Mrs. Elmena Twitchell, \$50 by Miss E. Hammett const. L. M's Sarah E. P. Delano, S. R. Mansfield, \$200; Maverick Hill, \$20; South Boston, Phillips Ch. S. S., \$92; Roxbury, Immanuel Ch. \$15.51, Eliot Ch. Aux. \$39.50, Anderson Circle \$8, Olive Branch \$8, Eliot Star \$7, Thompson Circle \$3.50, Ferguson Circle \$3.50, Mayflowers 75 cts., Walnut Ave. \$7; Chelsea, 3d Ch., Floral Circle, In Mem. Mrs. S. P. Cook, \$10, Central Ch., A Friend, \$10, Mrs. R. Brooks, \$10; East Somerville, A Friend, \$1; Cambridgeport, Bearers of Glad Tidings, \$40; Dorchester,

Pilgrim Ch., Pilgrim Gleaners, \$60; Brookline, Harvard Ch., of wh. \$25 by Mrs. L. S. Ward const. L. M. Miss Alice W. Bancroft, \$253; Waltham, Aux. const. L. M. Mrs. Julia M. Fullerton, \$25; Dedham, Asylum Dime Soc'y, \$1.70; Newton, Eliot Ch. Aux., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Mrs. Geo. H. Jones, \$25 by Mrs. C. E. Billings const. L. M. Mrs. M. B. Randall, \$170; West Medway, Aux., prev. contri. const. L. M. Miss Lucy C. Coolidge, \$15, \$1847 34

Turners Falls.—Mrs. J. S. Loveland, 1 40

Weymouth.—1st Cong. Ch. Aux., 7 00

Weymouth.—Miss Sarah Jackson, 3 00

Woburn Conf. Branch.—Mrs. N. W. C. Holt, Treas. Woburn, Aux., const. L. M's Miss Emma F. Fowle, Miss S. Ellen Wyer, \$50; \$25 by Mrs. John Cummings, const. L. M. Mrs. Caroline S. Carter, 75 00

Wrentham.—Aux., 50 00

Total, \$3,355 12

LEGACIES.

Legacy of Sarah A. Green, Newburyport, \$350 00

Legacy of Mrs. Mary A. Bertram, Townsend, 400 00

CONNECTICUT.

Eastern Conn. Branch.—Miss M. L. Lockwood, Treas. East Lyme, \$5; Norwich, Broadway Ch., \$100; M. C., \$50; Park Ch., \$95; M. C., \$5; Mystic Bridge, \$3.12; Colchester, \$74; Chaplin, \$10; Willimantic, \$41.50; New London, 2d Ch., \$42.25; Windham, \$26.20; Greenville, Aux., \$34.25; Little Workers, \$60.75, \$547 07

Hartford Branch.—Mrs. Charles A. Jewell, Treas. Hartford, Center Ch. Aux., of wh. \$25 as a memorial of the late C. W. Eldridge const. L. M. Mrs. C. W. Eldridge, \$42; East Hartford, Aux., \$37; Vernon, Aux., \$20; Buckingham, Aux. prev. contri. const. L. M. Miss G. F. Gardner, \$13; Plainville, Aux., of wh. \$25 by Mrs. L. O. Buell const. L. M. Miss M. Louise Hall, \$79; Bristol, Aux., \$3; Collinsville, Aux., of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Mrs. Laura Goodwin, \$30; Terryville, Aux., \$20; East Windsor, Aux., \$25, 269 00

Hartford.—Mrs. L. C. Dewing, \$50 00

New Haven Branch.—Miss Julia Twining, Treas. Centerbrook, \$30; Cheshire, \$41; Darien, \$30; East Hampton, 1st Ch., \$34.06; Ellsworth, of wh. \$10.22 fr. Golden Links, \$34; Falls Village, \$10.50; Gaylordsville, \$20; Georgetown, of wh. \$40 fr. Buds of Promise const. L. M. Mrs. Aaron Osborne, \$48; Goshen, \$28.50; Guilford, 1st Ch., \$40. Guilford, 3d Ch., \$29.14; Haddam, \$12.25; Meriden, 1st Church S. S., \$50; Boys' Mission Band, \$25; Middlebury, \$24.75; Middlefield, \$28.60; Middle Haddam, complete L. M. Mrs. R. D. Tibbals, \$12.36; Middletown, 1st Ch., A Friend to const. L. M. Miss Lillian A. Minor, \$61; Middletown, South Ch., const. L. M.'s Mrs. Benjamin Douglas, Mrs. Charles F. Browning, Mrs. Phoebe Fountain, Mrs. Wm. W. Wilson, Mrs. Henry S. White, \$125; Milford, of wh. \$25 to const. L. M. Mrs. Owen T. Clarke, \$56; Millington, \$10; Milton, \$10; Monroe, \$10.75; Mount Carmel, \$60; Naugatuck, \$50; New Britain, South Ch., LittleHelpers, \$59.15; New Haven, College St. Ch., of wh. \$30 fr. S. S., \$62; Fair Haven, 1st Ch., Y. L. M. S., \$30.50; The Helpers, \$13; Fair Haven, 2d Ch., \$57.50; North Ch., Y. L. M. C., \$50; M. C., Mrs. Cady's School, \$6.50; Third Ch., \$54.25; Yale College Ch., \$110; New Milford, of wh. \$17 fr. Golden Links, \$154.27; Northfield, of wh. \$5 fr. Steadfast Workers, \$39; Orange, \$20; Ridgefield, \$38; Sharon, \$48.80; So. Britain, \$1; So. Norwalk, \$60; Stamford, \$71.19; Torrington, const. L. M. Mrs. Judson Lyman, \$29; Torrington, const. L. M. Mrs. A. E. Perrin, \$25; Warren, Mrs. F. A. Curtis L. M., \$15; Washington, \$40.31; Waterbury, 2d Ch., of wh. \$80 fr. Y. L. M. C., \$170; Watertown, of wh. \$25 fr. Mrs. Eli Curtis, to const. L. M. Miss Eliza Beardslee, \$75; West Chester, of wh. \$5 fr. Willing Workers, complete L. M. Mrs. Mary G. Moses, \$17; West Haven, const. L. M. Mrs. Susan P. Beardsley, \$95.53; Wilton, \$73; Winsted, Mountain Daisies, \$30; Woodbury, No. Ch., \$30,

2,355 91

Newtown—Cong. Ch. S. S., \$22 25
W. Winsted.—Mountain Daisies, 5 00

Total, \$3,249 23

NEW YORK.

New York State Branch.—

Mrs. G. H. Norton, Treas. Rochester, Mt. Hor Miss'y Friends, \$17; West Bloomfield, const. L. M.'s Mrs. M. H. Shepard, Miss E. L. Taft, \$50; Jamestown, M. C., \$25; Oswego, Y. L. M. Soc'y, \$40; Newark Valley, prev. contri. const. L. M. Mrs. L. M. Smith, \$15; Napoli, \$9; S. S., \$4.50; Homer, by Mrs. Coleman Hitchcock, const. L. M. Mrs. George C. Bragdon; Oswego, \$25; Albany, of wh. \$25 const. L. M. Mrs. Albert N. Husted, \$100; Jessie Lyon memorial, \$12, \$297 50

Gouverneur.—Mrs. J. R. Crane, A Thank-Off., 10 00

Randolph.—Mrs. F. A. Fitch, 40 00

Troy.—Desert Palm Soc'y, prev. contri. const. L. M. Miss Susie S. Crosby, Waterbury, Conn., 15 00

Total, \$362 50

PENNSYLVANIA.

Beaver Meadow.—Welsh Cong. Ch., \$6 30

Total, \$6 30

OHIO.

Marietta.—J. W. Stanley, \$9 00

Windham.—Y. L. M. B., 15 00

Total, \$24 00

ILLINOIS.

Godfrey.—Monticello Girls' Miss'y Soc'y, \$35 00

Sterling.—Mrs. Nathan Williams, 9 40

Total, \$44 40

MONTANA.

Fort Logan.—Miss Jennie K. Lewis, \$10 00

Total, \$10 00

General Funds, \$7,996 57
 Weekly Pledge, 5 93
 Leaflets, 7 26
 Legacies, 750 00

Total, \$8,759 76

MISS EMMA CARRUTH; Treasurer.

Board of the Interior.

TURKEY.

LETTER FROM MISS BROWN.

Read at the Annual Meeting of the Missouri Branch.

AINTAB, Feb. 7, 1883.

DEAR FRIENDS OF THE MISSOURI AUXILIARIES: The time is approaching for your annual gathering, and a letter from your missionaries for the annual meeting ought to be now on its way.

A year ago, at the annual meeting of our Mission, — three weeks later than yours, — it was decided that Miss Tucker and I should be stationed thereafter at Adana, — a city of some thirty thousand inhabitants, on the Cilician plain, and one day distant from Merzin, the seaport of Tarsus. It had always been the plan that two ladies should be stationed at Adana; and we having somewhat learned the language, the change was made then.

During most of the summer we were at Hadjin. Four weeks, however, we spent in touring among the villages north of Hadjin, and then, being within a day of Cesarea, we crossed over the mountains, and spent a few days with our friends of the Western Turkey Mission who were stationed there, — Mr. and Mrs. Bartlett, Mr. and Mrs. Farnsworth, Mr. and Mrs. Fowle, Miss Closson, and Miss Burrage. Very pleasant was our stay there. I brought back a constant reminder of my trip — Kaiser, a little chestnut-colored pony, very easy in his motions. I gave him that name from finding him at Kaiserieh, the Turkish for Cesarea.

At Hadjin, the last of September found us trying to pack all our possessions in boxes, to be carried by donkeys and horses to Adana, four days distant. Anxiously we deliberated how best to pack our lamp, some six dozen chimneys, and several globes; but they came through safely. The carpenter came, and knocked down most of our furniture; and the process was kept up all along the journey. Our bureau and a few chairs entered their new home in a very shattered condition. The horses falling down occasionally in the rocky places, the few plants that we tried to bring with us did not survive the journey.

As to the weather in Adana on our arrival, I will simply refer you to Dr. Goodell's description of a hot day in St. Louis. There is a good-sized house there for the missionaries, built two years ago. We have a sitting-room and bedroom in it, and take our meals with the family stationed there this year, — Mr. and Mrs.

Christie. They, however, were not able to go when we did, Mr. Christie escorting us to Adana, but returning the next day to Hadjin. For a time we were the sole occupants of the house, and the nearest American a hundred miles away. We were too busy, however, to give much thought to the loneliness of our position. Our first work was an inventory of the rooms, deciding what must be done, and restoring what we could from the wreck of our possessions. The rooms had to be whitewashed; window-panes put in; furniture put together, glued, mended, and varnished.

One of our first needs, as soon as the new machine could be fixed, was to make curtains for the different rooms—a need which you would have appreciated at once on sitting down with us at any evening meal, with the “eye of the multitude” on us from the neighboring housetops, where they were gathered, before retiring, to look in on the American harems.

As a finishing touch to our sitting-room,—a touch beyond most houses here—we attempted to paint it. But, to begin with, our can of paint was a very small one; and then, while we were busy with a caller, it was upset by a gust of wind. More and more oil; but by the time we came to the doors the paint was all gone. The result, however, was not so botched looking as you will imagine. When everything had been arranged in place, some of the natives, coming in for the first time since the change, exclaimed, “Why, this room has become like heaven!”

Our room once in order, so that we could have a place to think in, we set ourselves to the task of opening the schools and getting our general work arranged. Miss Tucker took charge of the school-work, and I of that among the women. We had brought with us from Hadjin three Adana girls, who had been at school there for two years; and we found a fourth teacher in a young girl, a former pupil of Miss Shattuck. Our girls are quiet, lady-like, conscientious, and such good Christian girls that we love them very much. They are young, and unused to teaching, and, of course need a great deal of oversight and counsel.

The girls' schools opened October 11th. For four weeks Miss Tucker spent most of her time in the schools. At the opening of the schools the parents were away, at work in the vineyards and cotton-fields, and the children were slow to make their appearance. Much to our annoyance and hindrance in the work, it was some six or eight weeks before all were in school. We hope gradually to educate the people to promptness, but at present we cannot lay down strict rules—can only urge them, and show the evils resulting from such slackness.

On our arrival the school board waited on us, and informed us

what they desired to have taught in the school. Adana being near the sea-coast, the people are getting many Frank ideas; but they always seek the ornamental rather than the useful. They asked for embroidery and other fancy-work, and that a considerable time should be given to it; but as the children generally cannot sew a seam, work a button-hole, or do any kind of plain sewing well, we told them that instruction in the latter would be given three afternoons a week; that we considered other things more important than the fancy-work, although that was well enough in its place, and that we should give preference to other things.

One of Miss Tucker's first measures in the schools was to insist that the girls should comb their hair before coming to school. Those who did not comply were sent home to do it. In my visits among the women, it was amusing to hear their complaints. Calling at a house, and seeing a child at play, I would ask why she was not at school. The mother would reply that the new *hanum* made the children comb their hair every day, and that it was too hard on the children. Some had, from the over-exertion, sore eyes, some were lame, or otherwise disabled. Miss Tucker, when one woman said to her, "The school this year seems mostly for combing the hair and washing the face," replied cheerily, "If we only accomplish that much this year it will be a great thing."

Up to the last of December, Miss Tucker gave three arithmetic lessons, gymnastics, and the sewing-lessons. Since then, the teachers have taken part of the arithmetic work, and Miss Tucker has given the Bible lesson. I had an English class, but most of my work has been among the women. We had a meeting for the women every Thursday noon. At first it was hard to get them to come, for they were busy picking over cotton, or at other work, and were apt to forget. The great trouble was lack of punctuality as they have no means of knowing the time. They were to come when the school-bell rang at noon; but sometimes they did not hear it, and would come an hour and a half late. We had very pleasant meetings, however. Sometimes as many as twenty were present.

The giving of the Sabbath-school lesson to the girl-teachers—usually after service Sunday afternoon—I enjoyed very much. The helper that I had hoped we might have for work among the women I was not able to secure for this year. In calling among the people, therefore, I was at a disadvantage, having to wait for some one who could be my guide. The wife of our book-agent went with me whenever she could spare the time. We called on some one hundred families—nearly all the Protestant community. Wherever we called, the family were almost sure to attend the

next women's meeting. These meetings have been held in our sitting-room, for Armenians will come there when they would not go to a Protestant church.

I had planned pushing work among the women; but, as you see from the date of this letter, I am in Aintab. My eyes became so much worse that it seemed necessary that I should come here for treatment.

Before this reaches you, through Mr. Christie's letter, and possibly from Miss Tucker, you will have learned of the glorious work at Adana.

As to Thomas, so to us the Master is saying, "Be not faithless, but believing." All around us the fields are whitening, the work is growing, new opportunities are given, and doors long closed are swinging open on their rusty hinges. Are there no Missouri girls to offer themselves for this privileged service?

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS.

ANXIETY—REVIVALS—CHEER AND SADNESS.

A few extracts from letters recently read at our rooms will give some idea of the various chords struck there—grave, gay, or profoundly sad.

Miss Maltbie, of Samokov, Turkey, wrote, Jan. 17th, of serious apprehensions entertained there on account of Russian aggressiveness and intolerance.

It looks now as though poor Bulgaria, Servia, Roumania, and Eastern Rumelia would soon become Russian provinces, and the Czar of all the Russias would extend his dominions to the Sea of Marmora. It is natural that the Bulgarians should rather welcome this change than otherwise, with the bait of office and other emoluments before them. Their leaders say: "The Russians are our Slav brothers; we are kindred both by blood and religion, and why should we not be ruled by the same king?" The army is entirely in the hands of Russia. It is officered mostly by Russians. Bulgarian officers are sent to Russia, and Russians put in their places here. The minister of war is also a Russian. The change would make little difference to us, were it not for the unmerciful illiberality of the Russian Government. They are already beginning to shut us in and hedge up our way, taking our students for soldiers because they are Protestants, and stirring up enmity to us and our work. People are becoming even more fearful to come out as Protestants, and the outlook from our standpoint is very dark. But the people, especially the poor, are more and more eager for the "Bread of Life." They are hungry, and those who go out to the villages are greatly encouraged. Our hope is that God will overrule

all these seemingly unfavorable circumstances for the furtherance of the Gospel. It may be that poor benighted Russia is to receive the pure truth of salvation.

One of the boys who went out with books during vacation, could not get any one to carry him from village to village, till a robber offered to go with him. When they came to a village the robber went around with him, and persuaded the villagers to buy the books.

More and more of the work of God's Spirit has been witnessed in the school at Samokov (see page 208 June *Life and Light*); and it is hoped that nearly all the fifty boarding-pupils have been converted. And now the revival-wave that has swept over other parts of Turkey, has reached the rocky eyries at Hadjin. Mrs. Coffing wrote from Hadjin, April 27, 1883:—

We have just had one of the most interesting works of grace here that either of us ever had the privilege of witnessing. More than a hundred women and girls have commenced a new life, to say nothing of men and boys; but we have no strength for the particulars now. We will write again as soon as we can.

Mrs. Coffing strikes a cheerful note as she acknowledges the receipt of the new rag-carpet sent from Green Bay, Wis., and of the books given to relieve the loneliness of the long winter, by friends East and West. She writes:—

"I cannot tell you how thankful Miss Spencer and I are that you took so much pains to make the carpet pretty. We have to see so many ugly things, and so little that is beautiful, here in Hadjin, that it is a real trial, and not a small one, of our position here. I often have to pray: "Father, help me to look beyond these externals; help me to remember that this is one of the 'all points' in which our 'Great High-Priest' was tempted, yet without sin." And I can but think that He not only helps us, but pities us; for he has of late put it into the hearts of many of his children to send us beautiful things, and he makes the vines in our sitting-room grow so beautifully! The carpet is everything we could ask, and more than we expected; and we thank every one who sewed, colored, wound, or gave a rag, or paid a cent toward the weaving. And it seems to us we ought to give special thanks to the weaver, for we are sure special care was taken in this part of the work. And the books, among which is "The Pickwick Papers," over the illustrations of which we have laughed and cried more than once—please give our hearty thanks to the known and unknown senders of the books. I cannot tell you how much your postal-cards help us. We know you are all busy women, and cannot find time for the long letters you may plan. But if, when the spirit moves, you would send now and then a card, it would be a real sunbeam to us.

Another letter, from Mrs. S. C. Dean, though dated at Plymouth, Neb., breathes so much of the spirit of a foreign missionary, that we give place here to its brave, cheery notes.

Those illustrations in *LIFE AND LIGHT* for May have thrilled me through and through. The house on page 172 is my birth-place, and where, about twenty-four years after, my daughter was born. The places on pages 162, 163, and 164 are as familiar to me as that home; for they are very near my native city, and have often been visited. They bring up many pleasant memories of the past. We would gladly be there at work if we could.

From Micronesia come mingled tones of joy and sorrow. Mr. and Mrs. Houston, now in Honolulu, rejoicing over the birth of a son, who came to crown the year on the anniversary of their wedding, send grateful messages. But Miss Fletcher, after one short year of service, has recently been so ill that it is thought she must give up the work, for a time at least. Captain Bray, of the ship "Morning Star," wrote home after his last year's trip: "If I ever took a consecrated missionary to Micronesia, Miss Fletcher is one." She had commenced at Ponape her girls' boarding-school with five pupils. Who will take up this work? And with all the joy and gratitude we feel for many blessings in our work, our meetings often close with this sad refrain, "Who will take up this work?"

Home Department.

STUDIES IN MISSIONARY HISTORY. 1883.

WORK OF THE AMERICAN BOARD, 1830-1840.

BY MISS S. POLLOCK.

THE topics suggested by the work of these ten years are so numerous and so important, that we hope our friends will not confine themselves to the "Mission Studies" in preparing for the monthly meetings. They are not designed to forestall the necessity for study, but only as *helps*. It would be impossible to compress the stirring missionary events of any decade of the nineteenth century into the brief limits of a single paper.

What three Corresponding Secretaries died within the space of five years?

Life and work of Jeremiah Evarts. What important enlargement took place in the Bombay Mission? What interesting community did the missionaries find at Jalna, in the Nizam's Dominions? Give an account of the conversion of Harripunt and Narayan, at Ahmednagar. (See *Missionary Herald*, March, 1883, "Young Peoples Department.") What similar excitement occurred at Bombay,

in the Scotch Mission? What was the work of the Bombay press?

Revivals in Ceylon, 1834-5, 1836, and 1837. Two new missions were commenced on the main-land by the missionaries from Ceylon. Among what people was the Madura Mission located? Describe its beginnings. Growth previous to 1840. Beginning of the mission at Madras. Character of the work there. What did the missionaries of the Board attempt at Singapore and in Siam? How did the expedition of Lyman and Munson to the islands of the Indian Ocean end? Why did Leang Afa flee from Canton to Singapore, in 1834? What were the causes of the opium war? Effects on missionary work? There was a vast expansion of the work of the Board in the Turkish Empire during these ten years. "Bartlett's Sketches," "Missions to the Oriental Churches," by Dr. Anderson, and "Forty Years in the Turkish Empire," by Dr. Goodell, will be found specially helpful.

Events and changes in Greece. When did the missionaries resume operations at Beyroot? Beginning of the Mission in Constantinople. Work among the Armenians. Hohannes and Senakerim. Persecution in Constantinople in 1839. Why did it not extend to the Mission in Syria? Mission to the Persians. Mission to the Nestorians. What tribute of respect did the Nestorian clergy pay to Mrs. Grant after her death? What was the condition of the Choctaws and Cherokees in 1830? What was the state of the Mission? What course did the government pursue? How long did the missionaries Butler and Worcester remain in prison? What were the effects of removal on the tribes? What the effects on the Missionary work? What stations were located in Africa during this decade? What contest took place at the Sandwich Islands between the government and the Roman Catholics? Describe the great revival which took place at the Sandwich Islands. ("Four Memorable Years at Hilo," by Dr. Humphrey, will be found invaluable in the study of this topic.) "Tracy's History of the American Board" and "Bartlett's Sketches" will be found of service in the entire lesson.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE INDIANA BRANCH.

THE Mayflower Church of Indianapolis opened its hospitable doors to the Indiana Branch at 9.30 A. M. Thursday, May 10th. Outside sunlight and shower contended for the mastery, but inside the sunlight had conquered. After many vicissitudes in days gone by, after losing both President and Vice-President by removal from the State the last year, the delegates gathered, hopeful, grateful, earnest, and pledged good work in the year to come. Mrs. Dar-

ling, of Elkhart, Vice-President for the Northern Association, was by vote called to the chair, and won golden opinions by her skill and dignity. Mrs. Moses Smith sat beside her.

The report of the Secretary, Mrs. Haddock, was that of a work woman tried and true, and ended with a suggestion that the specific work recommended by the Board at Chicago should be at once adopted. Auxiliaries reported next. That of Kokomo, with only 15 members, leads the State, having raised over \$51. Michigan City, reported by the State Secretary—one of its members—has for the first time failed to lead, having fallen 39 cents behind Kokomo. This is much to the grief of its little "Wall-builders," a society of boys, who say, "If they had only asked us, we would have given more, making Michigan City first, as it always has been." The church at Orland, where only a young people's society "holds the fort" for us, sent a lady delegate—a promise of a senior auxiliary there next year.

A new church at Andrews, not yet fully organized, had formed a lively auxiliary, and sent a delegate; thus showing that they believe in "Christ for the World," as well as for their own neighborhood. From Terre Haute came a grand delegation—a little late, because the railroad is not managed in our interest, but all the better for us; for when their pastor opened the door, and they filed in, a long line of earnest-looking women, we felt that the reserved forces had been moved forward, and our victory was sure. Mrs. Elder, their president, assured us they had come to be true helpers to the end. She said that, as in school-life, we first love our books, then hate them, then love them forever, so they had passed through all these varieties of experience in missionary work; and they would pledge themselves to us for life.

Fort Wayne Auxiliary sent no delegate except their pastor, but he gave a very cheering and hopeful account of their work. A Young People's Society, recently organized at Kokomo, was reported. This and the one at Orland are ready to be enrolled as "Bridge-builders."

The morning was not half long enough. At eleven o'clock we adjourned to the church, and shared our good things with the representatives of the thirty-seven churches of Indiana, Mrs. Moses Smith giving her grand paper on "Tributary Forces." And at half past four we gathered again, to receive reports of committees and parting words.

After nomination by a committee, Mrs. Elder, of Terre Haute, was elected President, and Mrs. Hyde, of Indianapolis, whose abounding hospitality did much to secure the success of the meeting, Vice-President. Mrs. Haddock, of Michigan City, was re-

tained as Secretary, and Miss Warren, of Terre Haute, was elected Treasurer. In accordance with the suggestion of the Secretary, the specific work assigned to the Branch was then and there assumed by individual societies, almost to the last dollar.

Mrs. Rice, of Chicago, gave a few closing thoughts on our duty to interest and train our children in missionary work; and we parted with the glad song in our hearts,—

“Hitherto hath the Lord helped us.”

M. J. W.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN BRANCH.

It was an expectant company to whom the hospitable people of Grand Rapids opened the gates of their beautiful city on the morning of April 11, 1883; for the annual recurring feast-day had found many nothing loth to come up and taste the good things. And, indeed, the board was never more bountifully spread, or the viands more tempting, than on this the tenth anniversary of the Michigan State Branch of the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior.

The church, of which Rev. J. Morgan Smith is pastor, was in holiday dress, ornamented with lovely flowers scattered in graceful profusion.

More than 125 delegates assembled at the opening session, to whom Mrs. J. Morgan Smith, in behalf of the ladies of Grand Rapids extended a most cordial greeting.

The response from the President, Mrs. L. Kassick, expressed in most fitting language the bond of tender sympathy that unites workers in one common cause.

Mrs. Gold, of Flint, appointed to fill the office of Secretary in place of Mrs. Day, of Saginaw, alluded humorously to the difficulties she experienced in completing a task commenced by another; but success crowns earnest endeavor, for the report showed results very encouraging and satisfactory.

Mrs. George H. Lathrop, State Treasurer, reported as the total receipts from February, 1882, to February, 1883, \$4,780.72; which added to other acknowledgments, swelled the sum to the amount required for Michigan, \$5,000.

A very interesting paper was read by Mrs. Slaght, of Greenville, upon “The Missionary Work as Viewed by a New Convert.” The apathy of Christian women with regard to this work she attributed to prevailing ignorance. The experience of one was related who was aroused from her indifference by attending an “Annual Meetin’ of the Wimmen’s Board.” The paper, pregnant with

thought, closed with an appeal to Christian women at home for their coöperating aid.

The evening was devoted to a lecture by Rev. Dr. Noble, of Chicago. The key-note of the entire discourse was individual responsibility, which can in no wise be evaded. The entire lecture was replete with gems of thought in beautiful settings, and held the attention of a large audience from beginning to end.

Thursday morning was largely taken up with reports of conference presidents and their suggestions with regard to the work in their separate districts.

Mrs. Gale, of Romeo, read a paper entitled "Fireside Efforts," which seemed to touch a chord in the hearts of all. The duties of parents in the education of their children were presented in such a logical and attractive way that the echoes will long remain with us. At this point came one of the most interesting exercises of the session. The young ladies' circles, quite largely represented, were reported by graceful and self-possessed misses with a modest assurance, which enlisted for them at once the sympathy of all hearers.

Miss Alice Eddy's "informal talk," charming in its simplicity, drew tears from many eyes.

The early part of the afternoon was occupied by reading letters from missionaries.

Mrs. President Angell gave a few "Notes of Travel in China," and made the people and customs of that country a stern reality, from the fact of her personal presence among them.

A paper entitled "While I was Musing the Fire Burned," which evinced much thought and careful preparation, was read by Mrs. Martin, of Three Oaks.

Miss Hillis, of Ceylon, was present, and although evidently suffering from lack of physical strength, spoke with much animation of her life in India.

A resolution recommending the Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior to memorialize Queen Victoria in behalf of widows in India praying that child-marriages may be abolished, was submitted and approved.

A most touching paper on "The Mission of Christ," by Mrs. Buckland, of East Saginaw, an earnest appeal from Mrs. Moses Smith, and farewell words from Mrs. Kassick, that were like a benediction, closed one of the best meetings of the Michigan Branch.

CLARA A. WARNER.

Send to Secretary Woman's Board of Missions of the Interior,

75 Madison Street, Chicago, for the "July Mission Studies"—a Midsummer number—devoted to the interests of the Junior Societies. Price, 20 cents a year.

RECEIPTS OF THE WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS OF THE INTERIOR.

MRS. J. B. LEAKE, TREASURER.

FROM APRIL 18 TO MAY 18, 1883.

OHIO.

OHIO BRANCH.—Mrs. Geo. H. Ely, of Elyria, Treas. *Bellevue*, of wh. 13.20 for Shar Sch., 25; *Berita*, Soc., 5; *Bellevue*, Y. P. Mission Band, for Morning Star, 20; for Japan, 10; *Chardon*, Y. L. B. Soc., for The Bridge, 2; *Cincinnati*, 7th Ch., for Hadjin Sch., 44.65; *Cuyahoga Falls*, 11.86; *Kelloggsville*, for Miss Fletcher, 4; *Lexington*, Aux., 9; S.S. Infant Cl. 1; *Lodi*, 12.67; *Lyne*, 20.45; C. M. Band, for Morning Star, 28.24; *Madison*, for Miss Parsons, 10; *Marietta*, 50; *Meadville*, Pa., Park Ave., 25; *Huntsburg*, for Miss Parsons, 6.50; *Mesopotamia*, for Miss Parsons, 5; *Mt. Vernon*, 50; *Parkman*, for Miss Parsons, 5; *So. Neuberry*, for Miss Parsons, 8.50; *Thompson*, for Miss Parsons, 2 50; *Toledo*, 1st Ch., for Miss Lawrence, 150; *West Williamsfield*, 11.50; Heart and Hand Soc., for Hadjin Wall, 10. Less expenses, 6.

Branch total, \$521 87

Atwater, Aux., for Miss Parmelee, 13; Mission Circle, for Marash, 20; Willing Workers, for same, 2; *Geneva*, 2; *Springfield*, Y. L. Mission Soc., for Morning Star, 15, 52 00

Total, \$573 87

INDIANA.

Elkhart, 18; *Ft. Wayne*, 30; *Kokomo*, 30.50; *Indianapolis*, Mayflower, Aux., 12; *Michigan City*, 26.53; *Terre Haute*, 16, \$103 03

Total, \$103 03

MICHIGAN.

MICHIGAN BRANCH.—Mrs. Geo. H. Lathrop, of Jackson, Treas. *Armada*, 10; *Charlotte*, for Miss Spencer, 12.10; *Detroit*, Woodward Ave. Ch.

Aux., for Kobe Home, 70; *Dorr*, 6; *Flint*, for Kalgan Sch., 5; *Grand Rapids*, Park Ch., Aux., for Sch. at Monastir, 40; *Imlay City*, for Miss Pinkerton, 10; *Kalamazoo*, Plymouth Ch., Aux., for Diuidigul Sch., 27.62; *Manistee*, 25; *Pontiac*, 15.43; *Portland*, 7; *South Haven*, 14; *Standish*, for Kalgan Sch., 5; *Three Oaks*, for Kobe Home, 19; *Walton*, for Miss Spencer, 5.68. Branch total, \$271 83
Kalamazoo, Legacy of Mrs. Sarah D. White, 300 00

Total, \$571 83

ILLINOIS.

ILLINOIS BRANCH.—Mrs. W. A. Talcott, of Rockford, Treas. *Bowen*, Aux., 6.25; *Champaign*, Coral Workers, 40; *Chicago*, 1st Ch., 84; Union Park Ch., Mission Band, 18; *Evanston*, for Miss Porter, 47.75; *Farmington*, of wh. 25 fr. Mrs. Hand, 56; *Kemper*, 20; *La Harpe*, for Marash, 5.25; *Neponset*, for Miss Wright's horse, 10; *Oak Park*, for Miss Hale, 75.90; *Onarga*, Mrs. L. C. Foster, 10, Mrs. J. M. West, 2, 12; *Peru*, 3.87; *Quincy*, legacy of Mrs. Mary D. Waldo, to const. L. M. Mrs. Charlotte P. Waldo, 25; *Rockford*, Young Ladies Soc., 1st Ch., for The Bridge, 55; 1st Ch. Aux., for Bridgman Sch., 40, for Miss Diamant, 39.10, 79.10; *Wyming*, Light-Bearers, for The Bridge, 10. Branch total, \$548 12
Chicago, N. E. Ch., for Miss Chapin, 44.50; for Hisa San, 20; *Clifton*, Mrs. Esther R. Dixon, const. self L. M., 25; *Normalville*, Mrs. Mary Mc Ewen, 5; *Ontario*, 15; *Prospect Park*, 8; *Woodstock*, 2.19, 119 69

Total, \$667 81

WISCONSIN.

WISCONSIN BRANCH.—Mrs. R. Coburn, of Whitewater, Treas. <i>Adlerley</i> , 5; <i>Baraboo</i> , 6; <i>Beloit</i> , 2d Cong. S. S. toward running expenses of the Morning Star, 6; <i>Kilbourn City</i> , toward support of Bible-woman in Passmolia, India, 5; <i>Plymouth</i> , 3; <i>Whitewater</i> , for Miss Taylor, 2; <i>Milton</i> , for Morning Star, 6; <i>Ripon</i> , for The Bridge, 15. Less expenses, 96 cts. Branch total,		\$47 04
<i>Racine</i> , King's Young Daughters, for The Bridge, and const. L. M. Miss Ellen M. Lockwood,		25 00
Total,		\$72 04

IOWA.

IOWA BRANCH.—Mrs. E. R. Potter, of Grinnell, Treas. <i>Chester Centre</i> , for Miss Hillis, 20.75; <i>Denmark</i> , to const. Mrs. George Chickering L. M., 25; <i>Des Moines</i> , for Miss Hillis, 30; <i>Farragut</i> , 12; <i>Grinnell</i> , Boys' Circle, for Morning Star, 5; <i>Humboldt</i> , Miss A. M. Bissell, 4.80; <i>Harlan</i> , 22; McGregor, for Bible-reader, Hogh, Turkey, 10.86; <i>Ottumwa</i> , Messenger Birds, for Ponape Sch., 5; <i>Tabor</i> , 25. Branch total,		\$160 41
<i>Creston</i> , Joteringuns, for Marsh,		10 00
Total,		\$170 41

MINNESOTA.

MINNESOTA BRANCH.—Mrs. E. M. Williams, of Northfield, Acting Treas. <i>Duluth</i> , S. S., for Miss Brown, 40; <i>Lake City</i> , for Miss Catcart, 12.50; <i>Minneapolis</i> , 1st Ch., for Miss Barrows, 30; <i>Plymouth Ch.</i> , for Miss Barrows, 75; <i>Pilgrim Ch.</i> , for Miss Catcart, 10.45; <i>Northfield</i> , for Miss Brown, 21.86; <i>Owatonna</i> , Merry Hearts, for Marash, 13.50; <i>Rochester</i> , 15; <i>St. Charles</i> , for Miss Catcart, 8.75; <i>St. Paul</i> , <i>Plymouth Ch. S. S.</i> , for Morning Star, 25; <i>Sauk Centre</i> , for Miss Catcart, 18.15; <i>Wabasha</i> , for Miss Catcart, 11. Branch total,		\$281 21
Friends, for Miss Collin's helper, transferred to A. M. A.,		5 00
Total,		\$286 21

MISSOURI BRANCH.

Mrs. J. H. Drew, 3101 Washington Ave., St. Louis, Treas. <i>Cameron</i> , 10; <i>St. Louis</i> , 1st Cong. Ch., 6; <i>Pilgrim Ch.</i> , 100 to const. Mrs. A. W. Benedick, C. C. Fuller, W. Hodgdon, and Miss M. A. Sleith, L. M's; also 25 from Mrs. Geo. Edgell, to const. Miss Carrie Louise Scales L. M.; <i>Pilgrim Workers</i> , 37.42, of wh. 25 is to const. Miss Alice Welch Kellogg, L. M.; <i>St. Joseph</i> , 19.10. Branch total		\$172 52
Total,		\$172 52

KANSAS BRANCH.

Mrs. F. P. Hogbin, of Sabetha, Treas. For Miss Wright: <i>Pearlette</i> , 3.10; <i>Paola</i> , Mrs. Wm. Crowell, 60 cts.; <i>Capoma</i> , Mrs. H. G. Job, 1; East and West Branch Ch's, 7.30. Branch total,		\$12 00
<i>Ottawa</i> , Missionary Concert,		2 67
Total,		\$14 67

NEBRASKA.

Neb. "W. M. Ass'n," Mrs. G. W. Hall, of Omaha, Treas. For Miss Van Duzee: <i>Osceola</i> , 2.36; <i>Fremont</i> , 15; <i>Plymouth Ass'n</i> , 5; <i>Nebraska City</i> , 14; <i>Weeping Waters</i> , 10,		\$46 36
Total,		46 36

DAKOTA.

<i>Pierre</i> , Mrs. M. B. Norton		\$1 00
Total,		\$1 00

ROCKY MOUNTAIN BRANCH.

Mrs. P. F. Powelson, of Cheyenne, Wyo., Treas. For Miss Brooks: <i>Cheyenne</i> , 10.35; <i>Greeley</i> , 16; <i>Highland Lake</i> , Chh., 16; <i>Rock Springs</i> , 4.15. For Morning Star, <i>Colorado Springs</i> , S. S. 20; <i>Manitou</i> , S. S., 5,		\$71 50
Total,		\$71 50

MISCELLANEOUS.

Sale of leaflets, etc.,		\$34 18
Cash,		1 00
Sale of pamphlets in Mich.,		5 00
Friends, in Chicago, for room-furnishing,		\$25 79
Total,		\$65 97
Receipts for month,		\$2,847 22
Previously acknowledged,		14,842 39
Total since Oct. 22, 1882,		\$17,689 61

Board of the Pacific.

THE PRESS AND A PURE LITERATURE IN CHINA.

FROM various parts come answering notes that the press and a pure literature are from this time to be great agencies in spreading the glad tidings in christianizing the nations and countries of China, India, and Japan. In so many of the provinces of China, that we might almost speak as of the whole, the missionary is no longer opposed, but gladly welcomed, as he goes here and there among the people to speak the Word; and not only do they eagerly listen, but access is now comparatively easy to the educated and cultured classes, and they are ready and anxious for the printed page. Rev. Dr. Williamson, of Chefoo, having recently with his wife completed a long and satisfactory missionary tour through a large portion of the center of this province, makes very interesting and most encouraging statements as regards the temper of the people and the marked change that has come over the attitude of all classes, especially towards missionaries, within the last few years.

He says it is true that the missionaries at Tsi-nan-Joo, the capital of the province of Shantung, are at present meeting with considerable opposition; but this is merely a whiff of wind against the incoming tide, and a consequent ripple on the surface, but it will not affect the steady, onward flow.

The indications are numerous and varied—such as (1) the friendly demeanor and attentions of many of the mandarins; (2) the shouts of welcome which now often meet us as we enter a town or city; (3) the better class of boys who now seek to come to our schools; (4) the increased sale of our publications, and the fact that not a few among officials, merchants, and *literati* have shown their confidence in us by subscribing for a series of books in preparation by a committee of missionaries, before any were published; (5) the better class of people who now join our churches; (6) the willingness and alacrity with which our neighbors now help us, and artisans now work for us; (7) the manner in which many of the educated youths crowd around us in their cities, and the intelligent and eager questions which they put.

After mentioning several incidents showing the interest and cordiality of the people, this good man says he only alludes to these matters to show the *preparedness* there is for work in China, and especially for work among the women.

Of course there must be many districts in such an extensive

empire where the old enmity prevails; but there can be no question but that the hostility of the population is greatly removed, and that they are now prepared to look fairly at the message we bring. He says the causes which have produced this change are numerous and it is well to note them.

First, the extensive journeys and the wide distribution of books. No one who has not practiced itineracy can have anything like an adequate idea of the widely beneficial influence of this kind of work.

Formerly, when we arrived at a city, and had spoken the Word to those who had gathered around us, when these persons reached their homes, there were eager inquiries on all hands: "What is the foreigner like?" "What did he say?" Thus the elements of divine truth reached a circle far beyond our voices.

Then came the sale of books at low prices and when the people found our books and tracts free from all obnoxious sentiments, they did not, as a rule, think it worth while to hinder our labors. Thus was the country opened up.

Another great instrumentality has been medical missions. While not so wide, it has been more direct and personal, and its power proportionately intense. As you know, there is a medical missionary and hospital and dispensary at all the ports open in China (with the exception of two or three minor ones recently opened) from Canton in the South up to Peking on the North, while several medical missionaries are working in the interior. These stations are frequented by sick people, not only from the immediate neighborhood, but from the surrounding cities. All over China the treatment of the sick has been wonderfully successful. Many cases looked upon as hopeless—and really hopeless, as far as native practitioners could act—have been permanently cured, and the cures are looked upon as almost miraculous. The lives of the missionaries have also proved an important element in the change of which we have been writing. Living among the people, our servants and neighbors know us thoroughly, every thing about us and our doings; and thus we are living down the slanders which were formerly so rife. These facts indicate a line of action to be pursued in the future. *We must go on as we have done!* only strengthening each department.

But there is a line of action which comes out above all others as paramount, and that is the more extensive use of the press. This is indicated by various things. First, our increasing sales, more books having been sold during our last journey than ever before. Secondly, these books and tracts reach persons we can never hope personally to meet. There is hardly an article of any import-

ance written by the missionaries, or any book published by them, but is now read by the best minds, sometimes entering even the palace, in China. I am persuaded that a periodical literature in China will work as great a revolution here as it has done at home.

The Chinese language outstrips the English in compass. Our publications, therefore, are adapted to reach even a greater number of readers; for the same printed page can tell not only in the eighteen provinces of China, but in all her dependencies and neighboring states, such as Japan, Corea, Cochin China, Thibet, etc., and all over the Indian Archipelago. Has the significance of this fact been fully reflected upon by those who read this? Is there no voice in the circumstance that the largest heathen empire in the world, and the last to receive the Gospel, is one which can be reached throughout the borders and tributaries by the same printed page? Is there no indication of the will of the Master here?

The conversion of China is without question the most gigantic task which is placed before the Christian church. But at the same time there is no country so wonderfully prepared by Providence — a homogeneous people, a large proportion of readers in every quarter, minds cultivated by systematic study to grapple with the truth, and, as I have just stated, a written language which can reach the whole empire; great facilities of communication, — so that a well-directed tract or book might simultaneously move the Chinese wherever they are, — *in China or out of it.*

This new call gives wider scope for laborers, which before were much too few. There must be those — and are there not many who will respond? who may be able to do great things, if with consecrated heart and brain, out of fruitful experience, they shall indite the searching truth; so that by tract or printed page it shall reach the highways and byways of these lands from which it has been for ages shut out.

FROM GUADALAJARA.

In a recent letter to *The Pacific*, Mrs. Watkins writes:—

The school is prospering; we have forty scholars, and a near prospect of more. The 25th of March, or “El Domingo de la Resurreccion,” we celebrated the Lord’s Supper. Twelve were baptized, five of whom were children; the rest were received to church-membership.

Rev. Messrs. Howland and Bissell, of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, joined us in the service, as did the Methodist minister and his congregation. We were also glad to welcome to our Communion-table a lady and gentleman from California, who, for the first time in Mexico, par-

took of the sacred emblems on that evening. They enjoyed the services perhaps even more than at home, for they partook with a strange people who had been redeemed out of great wickedness, and who gave proof of their love to the Saviour, whom they also loved and worshipped.

During the last three months there has been a greater interest among the people in general to buy the Scriptures than for a long time before, which is a very encouraging fact. We have a vender, who, a few months ago, was a strong Catholic, selling *novenas* and Catholic books and papers, working against us in every way. He became a convert to the Truth, and now sells the Bible and portions of the Bible in the same way that he sold the Catholic *novenas*, reading from them on the street corners and in the public plazas, and thus drawing the attention of hundreds to the "beautiful words of Life." To give you an idea of the work, since January 1st to March 31st, by our colporteurs in this State, I will copy you the statistics as sent to the American Bible Society: Sold 113 Bibles, 385 Testaments, and 1,403 portions; value, \$173.45. Surely these numbers speak, and the results who can tell?

May He who hath sent forth his Word, bless it to the hearts of those who read it; and may His promise be fulfilled that it shall not return unto Him void, but shall accomplish that where unto it is sent.

An old man of ninety-nine years of age tottered in here, the other day, desiring a New Testament in large print, as he has heard portions of it, and was anxious to become its possessor. He can read perfectly without glasses, as he is enjoying second sight. Pray that he may find that Word a lamp unto his feet and a light unto his path as he takes the long, lone journey to the other shore, and that it may be his entrance through the Golden Gate into the Celestial City.

The work in the towns and in all directions is prospering.

Our sewing circle meets every two weeks, and has done good work in these three months of its existence. There are eight American ladies members, and we have gathered together \$20.46, and have made sixty-four articles for the poor. These little gatherings are very pleasant, and bring us into nearer sympathy with each other, and in all is cultivated a true missionary spirit in doing deeds of mercy and charity for the suffering poor.

The old saying is, "Every cord of wood given to the poor on earth is recorded in Heaven." May at least the blessing of Heaven rest upon our work and our Society, as so many of these poor people constantly plead; and while caring for the body may the soul be clothed with Christ's righteousness.

EDNA M. WATKINS.

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PUBLISHED MONTHLY

BY THE

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CO-OPERATING WITH THE

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

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ARTICLE I.—This Society shall be called "THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY," auxiliary to the WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS.

ART. II.—The officers of this Society shall be a Directress, Secretary, and Treasurer, chosen annually.

ART. III.—The object of this Society shall be the collection of money for missionary purposes, and the cultivation of a missionary spirit among its members.

ART. IV.—All money raised by this Society shall be sent to the Treasurer of the WOMAN'S BOARD OF MISSIONS, for the purposes of their organization.

ART. V.—Any person may become a member of this Society by the payment of ——— annually.

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In making devises and legacies, the entire corporate name of the particular Board which the testator has in mind, should be used as follows:—

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